

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JUNE 20, 1848.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MASON made the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 213.]

*The Committee of Claims, to whom was referred House bill No. 213, 1st session 30th Congress, entitled an "Act for the relief of Mrs. Mary B. Renner," have had the same under consideration and respectfully report:*

It appears that on the 16th of February, 1819, a law was passed authorizing payment to be made to the firm of Daniel Renner and Nathaniel H. Heath, of the value of certain materials, &c., burned in their rope walk at Washington city, in August, 1814, by the British troops then in possession of this city.

The ground of the claim was, that the petitioners had been unable to remove their property, as they had prepared themselves to do, before the enemy entered the city, because the boats, wagons, &c. which they had provided, were impressed for the use of the army of the United States. Under this law, Daniel Renner, as surviving partner, received the sum of nineteen thousand eight hundred and three dollars and ten cents.

The present claim is for the alleged value of the buildings constituting said rope walk, which were burned at the same time by the enemy, but for the value of which the claim of the petitioners was then rejected, because the ground of the claim admitted for the materials destroyed did not extend to the buildings.—(See Report No. 420, 1st session 15th Congress, communicated to the House of Representatives on the 16th March, 1818—American State Papers, page 595.)

Your committee, on a re-examination of this claim, see no reason for allowing it now. In their opinion the act referred to covered all that in equity or justice the public should be held accountable for.

The committee would further remark that, if anything more were to be allowed, they do not see that the present petitioner, as the widow of the surviving partner, would be entitled thereto. The proper representative would be the executor or administrator of Renner, the surviving partner.

They recommend that the bill do not pass.

